(v) Group dialling scheme provided up to 30 Kms. in rural, hilly and tribal areas of the country subject to certain conditions.

(c) The above concessions have already come into force.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Survey for Warora-Umred Railway Line

1475. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Field Survey Work of Warora-Umred via Chimur line in Maharashtra has been completed and the completion report submitted to the Railway Board on August 25, 1996;

(b) if so, the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which above project is likely to be materialised?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The survey for this work which has been recently completed has revealed the cost of the 106 kms. long line as Rs. 97.3 crores, with diesel traction, with a negative Rate of Return and with electric traction as Rs. 184.78 crores, again with negative Rate of Return. In view of the unremunerative nature of the project and severe resource constraints, it has not been found possible to take up this project for the present.

[Translation]

Tehri Dam Project

1476. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tehri Dam Project is under construction in the country;

(b) if so, the date on which the construction work started and the actual cost of construction of this project alongwith the target set for its production capacity;

(c) whether a number of changes have been made in the project upto March, 1997;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time schedule fixed for completion of this project alongwith its total cost of construction and production capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (e) The Tehri Dam Project was originally accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission in June, 1972 for implementation by the Government of Uttar Pradesh with an installed generating capacity of 600 MW (4x150 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 197.92 crores. The construction work on the project commenced in 1978. The installed generating capacity of the Tehri Dam Project was subsequently revised to 1000 MW in 1983, to provide for its operation as a peaking power station to suit the system requirement, at a revised estimated cost of Rs. 1065.80 crores (1983 price level).

Keeping in view the requirements of power for the Northern Region, and the inadequacy of funds with the State Government, it was decided in November, 1986, to implement the project as a joint venture of Governmet of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh and for this purpose, the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) was set up in 1988. The scope of the project was also enlarged to implement a Hydro Complex (2400 MW) by including Koteshwar Dam and Power House (400 MW) and a Pump Storage Plant (1000 MW) as a Central Sector scheme.

The Tehri Hydroelectric Project Stage-I (1000 MW) was approved by the Government of India in March, 1994, for implementation by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) at an estimated cost of Rs. 2963.66 crores. The Associated Transmission System costing Rs. 371 crores would be implemented by the Power Grid Corporation of India. The Project is expected to be commissioned by 2001-2002 A.D.

An expenditure of Rs. 1403.56 crores (Provisional) has been incurred by THDC on the project upto June, 1997.

Setting up of Steel Plants in Uttar Pradesh

1477. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps are being taken by the Government for consideration of pending proposals regarding setting up of steel plants in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of steel plants likely to be set up in the State during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) No proposal regarding setting up steel plants in Uttar Pradesh from the State of Uttar Pradesh is pending for grant of an industrial licence with the Union Government.

(c) As per available information by IDBI, one steel plant under the name and style of M/s. Malvika Steel Ltd. is likely to be set up in the State during the Ninth Five Year Plan.